

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Hungming J. Liaw, et al.

NOVEL BACTERIAL STRAINS, METHODS OF PREPARING THE SAME AND USE

THEREOF IN FERMENTATION

PROCESSES FOR L-LYSINE PRODUCTION

Serial No.: 09/630,454

Group Art Unit: 1645

Filed: August 2, 2000

Examiner: Devi, Sarvamangala J N

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

August 2, 2004

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SECOND AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO FINAL OFFICIAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

This is in response to the Final Official Action mailed March 9, 2004, in connection with the above-captioned Application, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire June 9, 2004, and in response to the Advisory Action mailed May 18, 2004. In the Advisory Action the Examiner refused entry of the amendment included with the First Amendment and Reply to Final Official Action Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, filed on May 6, 2004.

Applicants have considered the Final Official Action and the Advisory Action. They respectfully request that the amendments herein be entered and the Application be allowed. Included with this Second Amendment and Reply is a petition for extension of time of two months filed to extend the deadline for response to August 13, 2004, a calculation of fees for net addition of claims, a Notice of Appeal, and the required fees for the foregoing documents.

1 of 5 Pages